

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Saddle River Road
Saddle River, Bergen County, New Jersey

HABS-NJ-330 ✓

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey
Seymour Williams, A.I. A., District Officer
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Saddle River Road
Saddle River, Bergen County, New Jersey

Owner: The Lutheran Church

Date of Erection: 1820

Architect:

Builder: The building committee headed by
Andrew Esler

Present Condition: Good

Number of Stories: Two with steeple

Materials of Construction: Foundation - stone

Exterior walls - frame
construction

Interior walls - frame

Roof - pitch

Historical Data:

The ground upon which the church stands was originally part of the tract of land that was given to Albrecht Zaborowsky by the Indian Chief Manshier for debts contracted by him in 1675.

The original deed signed by four Indians is now in the possession of Mr. J. Hosey Osborn.

The purchase was signed over to Thomas Van Buskirk; he was a Lutheran. His great grandson gave the land on which the church stands.

The church building was commenced in 1820. The farmers around furnished the heavy timber, hauling it with their oxen and many people volunteered their services free. The church was raised by a frolic and we are told that it was a high day. The corner stone of the church was laid on October 4, 1820. A bottle of wine, a loaf of bread, a Bible, and a hymn book were placed within the stone.

Bibliography:

Information from Mr. J. Hosey
Osborn descendant of Thomas Van
Buskirk

Dunlop, Wallace Bergen County
Survey Historian

Walter E. Pratt
Supervising Historian

Approved:

Seymour Williams
SEYMOUR WILLIAMS, A.I.A.
District Officer

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